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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/972,582	10/05/2001	Sarvajit Chakravarty	219002028402	4932

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EXAMINER

LIU, HONG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1624

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/972,582

Applicant(s)

Chakravarty et al.

Examiner

Hong Liu

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1624

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 8-10, 13, 15-19, and 22-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 1, 8-10, 13, 15-19, and 22-33 are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1, 8-10, 13, 15-17, 23, and 24, drawn to a method to inhibit p38 activity by the compound of formula (1) wherein Z3 is N, Z5-Z8 is CR2, classified in class 514, subclass 266.1.
 - II. Claims 1, 8-10, 13, 15-17, and 23, drawn to a method to inhibit p38 activity by the compound of formula (1) wherein Z3 is N, one of Z5-Z8 is N and the rest is CR2, classified in class 514, subclass 254.1.
 - III. Claims 1, 8-10, 13, 15-17, and 23, drawn to a method to inhibit p38 activity by the compound of formula (1) wherein Z3 is N, two of Z5-Z8 are N and the rest is CR2, classified in class 514, subclass 262.1.
 - IV. Claims 1, 8-10, 13, 15-17, 23, and 24, drawn to the methods of use not included in Groups I-III, classified in classes and subclasses depending on the nature of the ring structure.
 - V. Claims 18-20, 25-33, drawn to the composition of the compound of formula (1) wherein Z3 is N, Z5-Z8 is CR2, classified in class 514, subclass 266.1.

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VI. Claims 18-20, 25-32, drawn to the composition of the compound of formula (1) wherein Z3 is ~~C~~, one of Z5-Z8 is N and the rest is CR2, classified in class 514, subclass 254.1.

VII. Claims 18-20, 25-32, drawn to the composition of the compound of formula (1) wherein Z3 is ~~N~~, two of Z5-Z8 are N and the rest is CR2, classified in class 514, subclass 262.1.

VIII. Claims 18-20, 25-32, drawn to the compositions not included in Groups V-VII, classified in classes and subclasses depending on the nature of the ring structure.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups I-IV are directed to the methods to inhibit p38a with structurally dissimilar compounds such that the variable core created by varying the definitions of the formula do not belong to a recognized class of chemical compounds in the art, and references anticipating one invention would not render obvious the others, for example, a method of inhibition of p38a kinase using quinazoline derivatives is different from a method employing, say, pridylpyrimidine. In addition, separate searches in the literature as well as in the U.S. Patent Clarification System would be required. Each group's compounds are made and used independently of each other and could support separate patents. The compounds differ significantly in chemical structures. One skilled in the art would not consider such diverse structures as functional equivalents of each other. The mere fact that there is a single similarity is not in itself a significant reason to render the

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whole embodiment obvious. The separation of the composition claims is based on the same reasoning given above.

A telephone call was made to Ms. Kate Murashige on 06/27/02 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Tentative election of a single species with the elected group is further required.

2. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Hong Liu whose telephone number is (703) 306-5814. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by the phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund Shah can be reached at (703) 308-4716. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-4734 for "unofficial" purposes and the actual number for **official** business is (703) 308-4556. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose number is (703) 308-1235.

hl
July 11, 2002


DEEPAK R. RAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Mukund Shah
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1624